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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Bernd EHRENBURG and Matthias WERNICKE

Application No.: 09/624,731

Group Art Unit: 2763

Filed: July 25, 2000

For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING A CONDUCTOR COMPRISING AT
LEAST ONE CABLE BUNDLE

Attorney Docket No.: 3926.009

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application which were cited by the searcher performing a search for the corresponding German patent application. Copies of the Search Report and the documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are provided herewith. Applicants are not aware of English language corresponding documents.

1. German Patent No. DE 42 40 890 C2;
2. German Patent No. DE 44 38 525 A1;
3. German Patent No. DE 41 04 332 A1;
4. German Patent No. DE 37 89 838 T2;
5. European Patent No. EP 0 845 746 A2;
6. German Patent No. DE 197 35 957 A1;
7. German Patent No. DE 43 35 121 A1;

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8. German Patent No. DE 692 26 099 T2; and
9. European Patent No. EP 0 787 330 B1.

Document 1

German Patent No. DE 42 40 890 C2, published September 26, 1996, entitled "Vorrichtung zum Erzeugen eines NC-Programms" ("Device for producing an NC program").

In a search conducted in the German Patent Office, claims 1-5 and figures 1, 2 and 6 of Document 1 were indicated as having category "Y" relevance.

Document 2

German Patent No. DE 44 38 525 A1, published May 2, 1996, entitled "Process and device for preparing and wiring switchboards and their components".

In a search conducted in the German Patent Office, page 1, lines 1-19; page 5, lines 41-46 and 61 on, and claims 1-7, 18 and 19 of Document 2 were indicated as having category "X" relevance.

Document 3

German Patent No. DE 41 04 332 A1, published August 22, 1991, entitled "Entwurfsvorschriftentestgerat und Betriebsverfahren dafur" ("Development logic test device and method of use thereof").

In a search conducted in the German Patent Office, page 1, lines 15-23 and claim 1 of Document 3 were indicated as having category "X" relevance.

Document 4

German Patent No. DE 37 89 838 T2, published September 22, 1994, entitled "Verfahren zum Verbinden eines Drahtes" ("Process for connecting a wire").

In a search conducted in the German Patent Office, claims 1 and 2 of Document 4 were indicated as having category "Y" relevance.

Document 5

European Patent No. EP 0 845 746 A2, published November 27, 1997, entitled "Printed circuit board CAD apparatus which determines a design parameter values".

In a search conducted in the German Patent Office, claims 1, 2, 7 and 9, and Figs. 1, 3, 4a, 4b and 5a of Document 5 were indicated as having category "X" relevance.

Document 6

German Patent No. DE 197 35 957 A1, published March 11, 1999, entitled "Verfahren und Vorrichtung zum Herstellen von Bauelementen sowie danach hergestellte Bauelemente mit Vorinstallation" ("Process and device for production of construction components as well as pre-assembly construction components produced thereby").

In a search conducted in the German Patent Office, claims 1 and 16 of Document 6 were indicated as having category "Y" relevance.

Document 7

German Patent No. DE 43 35 121 A1, published May 4, 1995, entitled "Automatische Flächenruckfahung bei optischen 3D

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Digitalisierer" ("Automatic reverse engineering with optical 3D digitalizer").

In a search conducted in the German Patent Office, claims 1 and 11 of Document 7 were indicated as having category "Y" relevance.

Document 8

German Patent No. DE 692 26 099 T2, published February 11, 1999, entitled "CAD-Gerat zum Entwurf eines Musters einer elektrischen Schaltung" ("CAD-Device for developing a design of an electrical circuit").

In a search conducted in the German Patent Office, claims 1-4 of Document 8 were indicated as having category "Y" relevance.

Document 9

European Patent No. EP 0 787 330 B1, published October 20, 1995, entitled "Method of Finding and Displaying Components of an Electronic Circuit in Order to Test the Operation of Said Circuit".

In a search conducted in the German Patent Office, claim 1 of Document 9 was indicated as having category "Y" relevance.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after three months from the application's filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, therefore no Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to

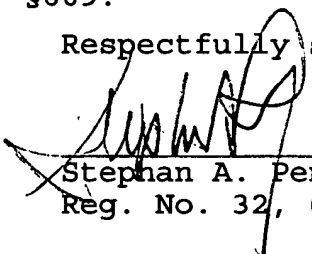
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antedated or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,


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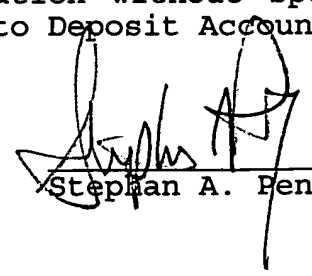
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that the foregoing INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Form PTO-1449, including three documents, for U.S. Application No. 09/624,731 filed July 25, 2000, were deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 21, 2000.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.


Stephan A. Pendorf